

# Upper Silver Creek Watershed Park City, Utah

1081217 - R8 SDMS

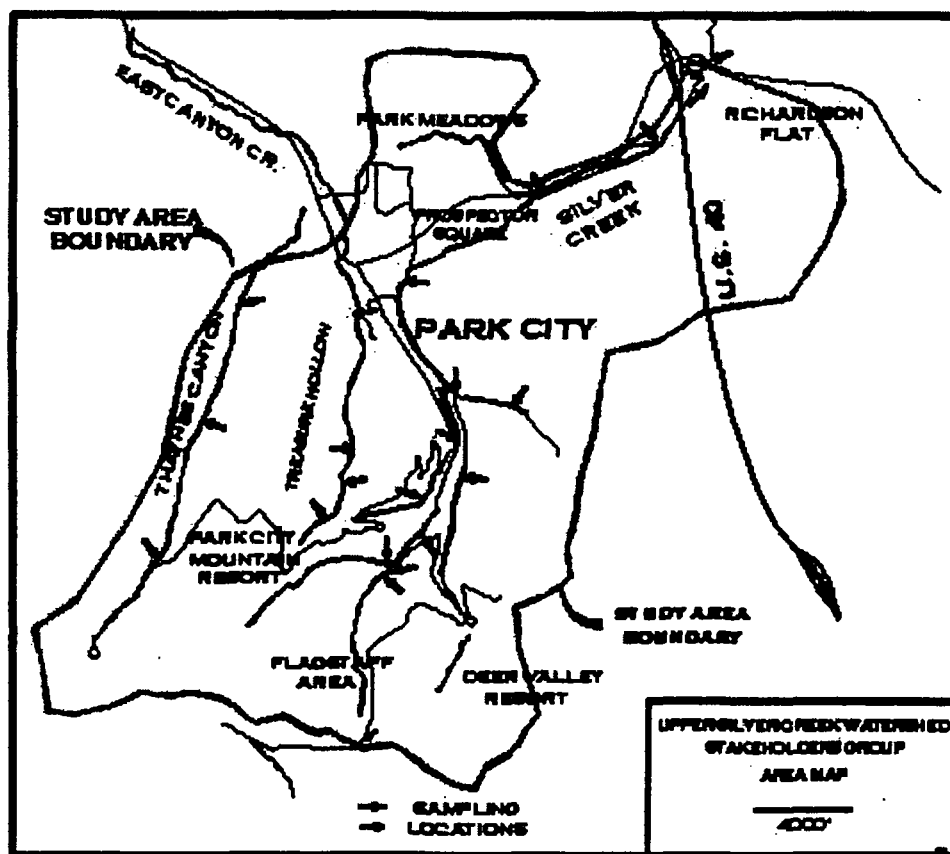


## NOVEMBER 2003 FACT SHEET

### INTRODUCTION

The Upper Silver Creek Watershed Stakeholder Group (USCWSG) is a group of committed residents, community organizations, local, state and federal agencies that have been working collaboratively for nearly four years now to address environmental contamination in the Upper Silver Creek Watershed.

The group has been looking at the impacts on human health and the environment from both historic mining practices and natural sources. Metals such as lead and zinc are the primary contaminants of concern. This fact sheet will highlight the progress made to date, current activities, and steps to be taken in the future.



## **Overview, Update and Schedule: Silver Creek Watershed Efforts 1999-2007**

- 1980's: EPA arrives in Park City and then abandons the idea in 1986.
- 1997: EPA returns to Park City to try it again, this time using a different approach.
- 1999 Upper Silver Creek Watershed Stakeholders Group has its first meeting. Purpose is to include Park City Residents, UPCM, and representatives from federal state and local governments in environmental decision making related to the Silver Creek Watershed and the 7 sites that are listed in CERCLIS.
- 2000 Watershed based sampling effort designed to look at cumulative and individual impacts to Silver Creek. Data results are published in the "Surface Water Monitoring 2000: Draft Interpretation Report". Used to help design overall approach to cleaning up the Silver Creek Watershed.

### **Initial Responses in the Watershed:**

- Watershed wide sampling effort
- Storm water management plan development and implementation under Clean Water Act Grants from EPA, with matching funds from Summit County and Park City
- Ontario Mill: created the runaway truck ramp and rebuilt portion on Silver Creek stream channel
- Marsac Mill: Area was redeveloped as an intermodal transportation center. Cleanup plan was developed with UDEQ under the Voluntary Cleanup Program.
- Park City Drinking Water: Park City is working to install a treatment facility at the Judge Tunnel. Costs are estimated to run to be \$3-5M.
- Flagstaff Development: Worked with UPCM to ensure new residential development in the area was on soils that were cleaned to an acceptable level to both EPA and UDEQ.

### **Current Efforts:**

The approach to cleaning up the watershed was to start at the top to avoid recontamination of areas downstream. Empire canyon is the first cleanup because it's the highest site in the watershed.

- To date roughly 30% of the Silver Creek stream channel in Empire Canyon has been remediated through excavation and reconstruction. Several mine dumps in the area have been covered.
  - In order to get to actual construction we had to complete an EE/CA, Action Memo, negotiate the AOC, and work out off-site rule disposal issues (for waste to go to Richardson Flats) with other parts of EPA, UPCM, and Park City. Empire canyon is the first cleanup because it's the highest site in the watershed, so that is where we focused our efforts first.

- The Richardson Flats ROD is signed.
  - To reach this point we spent about 3 years on a human health and ecorisk assessment along side a Remedial Investigation and Feasibility Study. We've about reached an agreement with the PRPs to resolve roughly \$1M in past EPA costs as well. We will negotiate a consent decree and resolve NRD claims, and UPCM is funding the cleanup.
- Prospector Soils Ordinance Program:
  - In cooperation with EPA, UDEQ, and other stakeholders, Park City conducted a detailed review of the PSO (the local ordinance established to address contaminated soils at Prospector Square) and adopted a detailed Environmental Management System (EMS) to address outstanding regulatory concerns. The EMS calls for ongoing environmental monitoring to ensure the efficacy of the soil cover over time; voluntary blood lead testing for residents; ongoing community education efforts; mandatory compliance; and disclosure programs for new residents or prospective purchasers.

#### **Schedule in a perfect world...**

- Empire Canyon is ongoing, but complete in 2006.
- Richardson work starts late this fall and continues to 2007.
  - Embankment starts this fall- 2005
  - Diversion ditch, floodplain tailings and wetland triangle are addressed in 2006
  - Capping and restoration activities complete in 2007.
  - Monitoring and ICs 2007....
- Middle Reach of Silver Creek
  - Sampling and some investigative work this fall- 2005.
  - "Middle Reach-Wide EE/CA" written this winter- 2005/06
  - "Middle Reach-Wide" agreement is reached through negotiations with Stakeholders spring 2006.
  - Work begins summer 2006. Excavated materials are disposed of at Richardson in 2006, 2007.
  - Biocell installation 2006.
  - Restoration activities 2007.
  - Monitoring and ICs 2007...

#### **To do list: Other areas left to address**

- Lower Silver Creek
  - Investigation plans and activities 2005/06
  - Area begins is addressed in 2007/08
- Homes around Marsac and lower Empire Canyon
- Ontario Mine, California/Comstock, Silver King, etc
- Stay on top of development issues in Empire Canyon
- Make sure TMDL is integrated with cleanup